

The Times-Dispatch.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1914.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH and Breakfast
are served together with regularity
in the best homes of Richmond.
Is your morning program complete?

Horror of Peace.

THE cessation of hostilities in Mexico is
not without its drawbacks to some people.
If it's an ill wind that blows no good
it's a rare rose that has no thorn. While
the fighting between the Huertistas and the
Constitutionalists was in progress 5,000 former
soldiers of the dictator were receiving
free board and lodging across the Texas border
at the expense of the United States. Now the
United States government is about
to open negotiations with Carranza for the
"release" of these "prisoners," and the "prison-
ers" face the alternatives of going to work for a
living or starving to death. Free board is
for them no more and for that they can blame
the end of the fighting in Mexico. Peace
hath horrors as well as war.

Broken-Down Governments.

THE war of nations in Europe has demon-
strated the unfitness of the government
of many of those nations. The system has
broken down.The peoples of those nations did not want
war; yet they are compelled to offer up their
homes and their lives to its conduct.What government is chiefly responsible we
need not argue now. That any of them ac-
cidentally brought on the catastrophe may
not be true. But it is true that through civil
disobedience, through greed and fear, through
mistakes of militarist governments, through
the monumental Bismarckian mistake of
selling Alsace-Lorraine, the European govern-
ments, not the people, have brought their
own destruction. Mismanagement and faults
of the system and lack of idealism are re-
sponsible for this war, and in bringing it
they have committed suicide. That last is
the one rift in the clouds.

In short, the war has scare begun.

If Germany is Victorious

IN the event of the present European conflict
going against the allies, it is safe to as-
sume that there will be a regaining of
ideals towards which democratic countries
are striving, and a return to that military
idealism of which Germany is such an ef-
ficient exponent. The military ideal, in
which everything is subordinated to perfect-
ing an armed machine, is wholly repugnant
to democratic doctrine. It can only reach
its highest expression under an autocracy.
Art and science do not require a dictator,
and literature is a republic. The highest
military efficiency requires that supreme
power be vested in one man, a man who is
ruler as well as military chief.During the past century popular govern-
ment—democracy—has made enormous
strides in France, Italy, the smaller countries
of Europe and in Great Britain. Relatively
it has not advanced at all, either in Germany
or in Austria-Hungary. These are autocratic
countries. If their system should prove to
be the only one which assures the existence
of nations, then it must inevitably follow that
other nations must adopt that system.In the event of the democratic countries of
Europe being laid low by the autocratic mili-
tary ideal, they will necessarily change their
ideals to maintain their national existence.
France has a standing army, but in no sense
does it worship a soldier god. England main-
tains a big navy, but in no sense given up
to the principle of a nation in arms. If,
as democracies, these nations cannot keep
their place in the world, they will strive to
build up their broken strength by adopting
the course that has proven successful against
them.For Americans the subject is of heavy im-
port. We, too, must inevitably recast our
democratic principles, if it is demonstrated
that militarism is the price of nationhood.
If the United States turns its mind to it, a
fighting machine can be built up such as the
world has not yet seen. The building up of
such an organism, however, will require the
diversion of our best energies into military
channels; it will also require that one man
be placed in supreme power for a long period.The right of democracies to exist, that is,
their ability to maintain themselves at the
present stage of the world's development, is
undergoing the crucial test on European
battlefields."King Feels Strain of War," says headline.
Unfortunately beheads those Kings, to be sub-
jected to strain, while those who do the fighting
are daily finding eternal peace.Don't forget that the manufacture and sale
of certain forms of tobacco have been State-
widely out of existence in a number of Com-
monwealths.The pen may not be mightier than the
sword, but it has the advantage of safety in
that the fighting is done at long range.The Embroid Act is so called because it
seeks to enable good people to compel their
equals to live in a way they may not wish to.For many a weary day there are apt to be
more engagements than marriages in Europe.It is called the "theatre of war" because
there are so many deadheads in it?Recipe for violating rules of civilized war-
fare: First catch your civilized warfare.

Three cents for sugar.

Five cents for bread—New York Sun.

Is Italy waiting to pick the winner?

The Clifton Forge Review agrees with The
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have the effect of making the American people
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Very respectfully,
A. P. Hill, Lieutenant-General.Colonel W. H. Taylor, assistant adjutant-gen-
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THE BRIGHT SIDE

What Shall You Do?

The blouse of today puffs and sags,
The corsets are less sharply than bays,
So new do you look,
You are going to shrink
And be fit for next season's glad rags?For the blouse that compresses the waist
is coming, they tell you, posthaste.
But how will you squeeze
Yourself into it, please,
If your waistline is lost or misplaced?
—Grace McKinstry, in Judge.

An Off-Hand Remark.

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